May I know from the Minister what kind of regulatory mechanism he is going to have for the Cable T.V.? I also want to know what are the main features of the Bill which he is going to introduce before the Parliament.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, so far as the Indian culture is concerned, it is not so fragile that just because Star T.V. and other satellite T.Vs. have come, our thousands of years of old culture will succumb. In fact, despite 200 years of British rule, our culture survived and took the best of their culture. That is why there is no..

MR. CHAIRMAN: We carried culture to Sri Lanka also. We contributed in their culture.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: In fact, the words of Tagore were: "Dibe aar Nibe milabe milabe, Jabe Na phire A Bharater, Mahamanaber Sagartire"

That means we take and exchange our cultures. We never lost our culture. The hon. Member is right when he said that we have to improve the quality of our programmes and also our transmission facilities in uncovered areas. For that reason we are waiting for our own individual satellite to come up in June. Then various transponders will be available. By then I understand that 16 transponders will be available. We will try to get as many as possible from there. So far as Asia Sat is concerned, we did have negotiations. But they have chosen our neighbour. At a lower price, they have given it to Pakistan. But it does not mean that they are going to affect us in any way. We are continuing with our negotiations. In fact, yesterday, in the meeting presided over by our hon. Prime Minister, this point was taken and the Prime Minister has given directions so that negotiations for taking Asia Sat may start. Besides that, wherever they are available we are trying to get other satellites in order to beam to all other places, Doordarshan programmes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRI ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Extension of 'Bombay project' to other cities

@385. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to set up a national trust to extend the 'Bombay Project' of integrated waste management (conversion of garbage into fuel pellets and maintenance of public ticlets) to more cities ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.J. KURIEN) : (a) and (b) There is an on-going pilot Project in Bombay to convert Municipal Garbage into fuel pellets using an indigenously engineered plant and to establish ticlet block emenable for mass replication and construction. This pilot project was undertaken with the intention that if the technical feasibility of the concept and its potential for wider application are established, then the city of Bombay and other towns and cities in the country with similar problems could also be considered for coverage under an innovative management mechanism.

The pilot project of integrated Waste Management taken up for Bombay City is currently under implementation. After the results of the pilot project of integrated Waste Management taken up for Bombay City are duly assessed, the question of its expansion and establishment of an appropriate organisation mechanism for its implementation will be taken up.

Middlemen in coal trade

*386. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bulk of consumers in distant places are till receiving supplies of coal through middlemen and commission agent ; and

@Previously Starred Question 245 transferred from the 13 March 1992.